

RR: 61-1627/b

21 MAR 1961

Mr. P. Kenneth O'Donnell
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

This is in reference to the letter addressed to you from [redacted] dated 18 January which you forwarded to this Agency.

STAT

A review of our files indicates receipt of another letter from him which was transmitted to us by the Department of State and sets forth substantially the same information as contained in the referenced communication.

I have written to [redacted] and, for your information, I am attaching a copy of my letter to him which I thought perhaps you would like to see.

STAT

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

William A. Dafoe
Director

Enclosure

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

O/DDP/WHDiv/4

Rewritten: O/DCI/E [redacted]: vgd 20 Mar 61

Distribution:

orig & 1 - addressee w/encl
1 - DCI
1 - ER w/basic
1 - FMC

1 - COPS
1 - DD/P
1 - Ch/WH Div
1 - WH Div/4

(EXECUTIVE DECISION FILE *John F. Kennedy*)

1961

STAT

ER 61-1627/a

STAT

[REDACTED]

I am writing in reply to your thoughtful letter of January 28th to Mr. P. Kenneth O'Donnell stating your views regarding the encroachment of communism in Cuba and elsewhere in Latin America. [REDACTED] referred your letter to me for consideration.

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Your suggestions have been read with great interest by a number of officials and we are most appreciative of the high motivation which prompted you to write. Since the date of your letter, as you will have noted from the press, some progress has been made by the anti-Castro Cubans toward unifying the anti-communist elements of resistance.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: [REDACTED]

STAT

O/DCI/FMC 20Mar61
Rewritten AWD:mfb 21Mar61
Distribution:
Orig - Addressee
1 - Mr. O'Donnell
1 - DCI
① - ER w/basic
1 - Chief/WH Division
1 - [REDACTED]

STAT

SECRET

10 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA : Deputy Director (Plans

SUBJECT : Correspondence from Mr.

25X1

STAT

Enclosed hereto is a suggested reply to correspondence from

STAT

25X1

J. C. KING
Chief

Western Hemisphere Division

Enclosures:

1. Suggested Reply
2. Letter
3. Route Slip

25X1

cc: DDCI
DDP

SECRET

10 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : Correspondence from

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Enclosed hereto is a suggested reply to correspondence from

Mr.

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J. C. KING

Chief

Western Hemisphere Division

Enclosures:

1. Suggested Reply
2. Letter
3.

25X1
STAT

cc: DDCI
DDP

DDP/WH (9 March 1961)

25X1

Distribution:

- Orig. & 1 - Addressee
- 1 - DDCI
 - 2 - DDP
 - 1 - C/OPS
 - 2 - Signers
 - 1 - C/WHD
 - 3 - WH/4

SECRET

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[REDACTED]
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

January 28, 1961 61-1627

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Mr. [REDACTED] (2)
c/o White House Staff
Democratic Headquarters
Washington, D. C.

Dear [REDACTED]

I have taken the liberty to encroach upon your valuable time, to discuss an equally important topic: that of the imperiled freedom of the entire Continent. [REDACTED] has kindly permitted me to use her name in referring me to you.

The writer is a Cuban citizen, educated in the United States, very able and desirous to help in our common fight for Democracy and against Communism.

At the time of this writing, there are several major groups trying to oust the Communist dictatorship of Fidel Castro from Cuba, so as to reinstate our republican institutions. Except for the exception of the pro-Batista group, the only one of them ever to unite with Communism, all of these major groups propose to go into social reforms along well defined and established Democratic lines, which will make this final revolution palatable to all of the classes of the Continent, as well as profitable to Cuba, and with time, to the rest of The Americas, by serving as an example of what can be accomplished without resorting to radicalism of any kind.

The ranks of these groups are swelled by some of the best known and most distinguished Cuban democrats, but their ability to fight back has been curtailed by an almost absolute lack of unity. This grave defect must be immediately corrected.

The period of unrest, of growing opposition to Castro, is now at a climax. The gestation of a revolution is at present at its most favorable time. The next few months should be ideal for the overthrow of the anarchical regime that now disgraces our nation, but if the usurpers cannot be overcome within the next relatively short lapse of time, our common cause may be hopelessly lost, for:

- (1) The morale of the Cuban People in the island, now at a fighting pitch, is sure to crumble from the gigantic strain.
- (2) Castro would have the time to really dig in as a true military dictator, once he has thrown aside his last cloak of hypocrisy, and with the help of the Communist block be exceedingly hard to budge, thus making necessary a long war-like revolution.
- (3) A long war would prove too costly for the already impoverished Cuban exiles and patriots, who have already lost all they had.
- (4) The Cuban children, now being indoctrinated, would grow up as Communists, through a long war.

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Mr.
Continued.

(5) The assistance so badly needed from the United States might not be available from a Republican administration, for the Cuban defeat should be instrumental in the loss of the 1962 and 1964 elections for the Democratic party, long been regarded as the most understanding towards Cuba and Latin America of the two. The loss of prestige for the US would bring about more Castroite regimes in South America, following the pattern of non-chastised Cuba. The liberties of the entire Hemisphere, and of the whole World, would then surely be in grave danger, if not lost at all.

There is but one way to bring about complete harmony to our common cause, so as to convert all of the factions into one formidable force: To have one person unite the groups into one solid coalition, which must be based upon firm foundations of truth and mutual respect. This person must be devoid of preference for any particular faction, but must be imbued of the spirit of Democracy and Panamericanism, concepts apparently forgotten in Latin America since the Second World War. This coalition, when formed, can then take steps into forming a future government in arms which will be ready to exercise its enforcing functions, as soon as the establishment of a reasonably permanent position in the island is a reality.

The person performing this all important task should have the following unique characteristics: He should

- (1) Be young and aggressive, a "go-getter", but neither temperamental nor impetuous. He should be able to remain calm under pressure.
- (2) Be acceptable to all factions, if at all possible.
- (3) Be a Cuban, without any direct link to Castro or Batista.
- (4) Be completely bilingual, and completely familiar with both the systems of the United States as well as those of Cuba, due to the close cooperation needed between the two countries.
- (5) Be accustomed to traveling, and to adapting himself to various circumstances. Certain idiosyncracies of Latin America should be known.
- (6) Have good training in Labor Relations and Management in general, so as to be able to cope with the different conditions arising, and be able to coolly analyze situations occurring.
- (7) His character must be above reproach, he must have a record of proven fidelity towards the American ideals of free enterprise and the Bill of Rights, and, most important of all, he should have the absolute confidence of the administration of the United States of America.

The creation of the job outlined above, appears to the writer to be an absolute necessity, which should be undertaken as soon as feasible. He feels he is ideally suited for it, due to the following qualifications, among others:

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Mr. Kenneth J. O'Donnell
Continued.

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Contacts

My main reasons for applying for an indefinite position of this nature, which I must feel must be created without delay by this administration, are the following two:
It is my sincere belief that I can bring about the union of these groups, with the help of the US government, although I feel that this help should not be publicized at all. A Cuban must be used for this mission, as he should bear the burden if it were to fail. The risk in propaganda losses would be too great to be run by the United States. Secondly, I honestly believe that our results, for Cuba and the entire Hemisphere, would be greatly insured if any plans that are drafted for the deliverance of our Republic from the hands of International Communism, should be made under the direct surveillance of the USA. In making the goals of the coalition public for the whole continent to see, the risk of someone repeating the steal of the rights of the people once more, would be minimized. I have the acceptance of a large group of professional men, mostly American trained, that realize, as I do, that the true leader of the Hemisphere is the United States, and that only in close cooperation with this leader will our freedoms be preserved and our economic levels raised to their deserved standard. The fight against Communism belongs to all of America. Together we can make the 1960's the decade of Panamericanism and Freedom.

In ten days, another letter will follow this one, to insure delivery.
Very truly yours,

STAT

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

ROUTE SLIP

(To Remain With Correspondence)

TO Director of Central Intelligence

**PROMPT HANDLING IS ESSENTIAL.
WHEN DRAFT REPLY IS REQUESTED
THE BASIC CORRESPONDENCE MUST
BE RETURNED. IF ANY DELAY IN
SUBMISSION OF DRAFT REPLY IS
ENCOUNTERED, PLEASE TELEPHONE
OFFICE OF THE STAFF SECRETARY.**

Date Feb. 17, 1961

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

ACTION:

Comment _____

Draft reply _____

For direct reply _____

For your information _____

For necessary action X _____

For appropriate handling _____

See below _____

Remarks: _____

GPO 10-71264-1

By direction of the President:

Kenneth O'Donnell

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UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		INITIALS	DATE	
1	Chief, WH				
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	
Remarks: For comment and recommendation. <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>					
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER					
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.				DATE	
EO/DCI/				2 Mar 61	
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	

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